

TOWN OF IPSWICH - MASSACHUSETTS
Ipswich Shellfish Advisory Committee to the Board of Selectmen
Tuesday June 7, 2016
Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Shellfish Advisory Committee to the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in COA room of the Ipswich Town Hall. Members present were Chairperson Linda Alexson, Michael Lambros, Brenda Turner, Wayne Castonguay and Bill Craft. Also present were Shellfish Constable Scott LaPreste and Recording Secretary Marie Rodgers. Absent were Charles Surpitski, David Swicker and Police Chief Paul Nikas.

Citizen's Queries – there were none.

Constable's Report

Constable LaPreste announced rule changes. He reported the river was open all of April, due to a dry Spring; it's been three years since the River's been open this long. DMF reported very clean testing results in April.

Constable spoke to the quality, size and abundance of the shellfish harvest; he predicted it will continue for the next two to three years. Discussion took place regarding availability affecting the market price.

Constable reported the BOS approved the forty-cent bounty on May 16th; 7,000 pounds of green crabs have been trapped since May 17th. Discussion took place regarding the process of harvesting and the importance of surrounding towns' involvement is vital to the cause. Discussion was held regarding the planning of a regional conference; it was agreed to schedule it in October or November.

Constable said he was contacted by TV media to do a story in July regarding green crabs. Tasks in June will be placing more crushed stone on the ramp at Patterson's Landing.

In response to Ms. Alexson's question, the cap of 125 will likely be reached for first time in three years. This application period will probably require a lottery. There has been no interest in the student program; Ms. Turner said there will be next year when her granddaughter applies.

Private aquaculture discussion (review of procedures and regulations)

Discussion continued from past meetings regarding the proposed revisions to Section 13 of the regulations (private grants). Revisions and edits were agreed upon as follows:

B **Initial Application**

6. Each time a new grant area becomes available, it will be awarded by a new lottery.

E. **Farming Activities**

2. The grantee assumes all liability for all gear and tackle used on the grant. All gear must be maintained in a safe and proper manner so as to prevent any incidental obstacles or damage to safe passage, navigation and the environment.

10. If, in the judgment of the Shellfish Constable, any gear must be removed from the grant, it shall be the responsibility of the grantee to remove said gear. Within seven (7) days following issuance of an order by the

Shellfish Constable to remove the gear, if the grantee has not complied with this order, the Town may cause such gear to be removed at the expense of the grantee.

•MOTION:

Mr. Castonguay moved to recommend the BOS accept changes subject to review by Chief Nikas; Mr. Lambros seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Alexson will send the revisions to the Chief for his review.

New/Old Business:

Mr. Castonguay announced there will be a kick off meeting tomorrow evening, presenting the upcoming study to remove the Sylvania Dam. The in-depth study will review the engineering aspects, social, historical and environmental impacts.

Approval of minutes:

Mr. Lambros moved to approve the meeting minutes from May meeting. Mr. Castonguay seconded, the motion passed unanimously in favor.

Next Meeting –Tuesday August 2, 2016 @ 7:00 PM in Room A

Adjourn at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
M. Rodgers

These minutes were approved on August 2, 2016